

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-21 (of the International Application) Cancelled

22. (New) Apparatus to control access to logical units, where a plurality of logical units are accessible via a network by at least one port, comprising:

a definition unit to define a set so as to comprise at least one port that requires access to certain logical units, the set having a name and being a named set; and

an association unit operable to associate the named set with the certain logical units to enable a determination of identification information for the at least one port by referencing the name.

23. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where a logical unit comprises an addressable entity that accepts commands and a port comprises an addressable entity that sends commands.

24. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where the certain logical units comprise a part of a storage device accessed via a storage area network.

25. (New) The apparatus as in claim 24, where the storage area network uses a SCSI protocol.

26. (New) The apparatus as in claim 24, where the storage area network comprises a Fibre Channel interface.

27. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where said definition unit comprises means for coupling together a plurality of ports that are members of the set and providing a locating address for the set.

28. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where said definition unit is operable to logically identify those ports that are members of the set using port identification information.

29. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where said definition unit is at a first location, and where said association unit is at a second location.

30. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where identification information is changeable in response to changes in port configurations.

31. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where logical units are identified by logical unit numbers.

32. (New) The apparatus as in claim 24, where said association unit is embodied in a storage controller.

33. (New) The apparatus as in claim 22, where said storage controller is operable as a back up storage by associating all ports of the storage controller in all named sets and by selecting which named set the logical units are associated with.

34. (New) A method to control access to logical units, wherein a plurality of logical units are accessible via a network by at least one port, comprising:

defining a set to comprise at least one port that requires access to certain logical units, the set having a name and being a named set;

associating the named set with the certain logical units; and

extracting identification information for the at least one port by referencing the name.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, where a logical unit comprises an addressable entity that accepts commands and is identified by a logical unit number, and a port comprises an addressable

entity that sends commands.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, where the certain logical units comprise a part of a storage device accessed via a storage area network.

37. (New) The method as in claim 36, where the storage area network uses a SCSI protocol.

38. (New) The method as in claim 36, where the storage area network comprises a Fibre Channel interface.

39. (New) The method of claim 34, where defining comprises coupling together a plurality of ports that are members of the set; and providing a locating address for the set.

40. (New) The method of claim 34, where defining comprises logically identifying those ports that are members of the set.

41. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising changing identification information in response to changes in port configurations.

42. (New) A computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable program code for controlling access to logical units, wherein a plurality of logical units are accessible via a network by at least one port, execution of the computer program product by at least one computer for providing operations that comprise:

defining a named set to comprise identification information of ports that require access to certain logical units, where each port comprises an addressable entity that sends commands, where each logical unit comprises an addressable entity that accepts commands and where at least some logical units comprise a part of a storage device accessed via a storage area network;

changing identification information in response to changes in port configurations; and

associating the named set with the certain logical units to enable a determination of identification information for at least one port by referencing the name of the set.

43. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the operation of defining comprises coupling together a plurality of ports that are members of the set and providing a locating address for the set.

44. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the operation of defining comprises physically coupling together a plurality of ports that are members of the set and providing a locating address for the set.

45. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the storage area network uses a SCSI protocol.

46. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the storage area network comprises a Fibre Channel interface.

47. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the operation of defining comprises logically identifying those ports that are members of the set.

48. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where the operation of associating occurs at a plurality of locations.

49. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, where logical units are identified by logical unit numbers.

50. (New) The computer program product as in claim 42, executed at least in part in a system comprising means for defining the named set to comprise identification information of the group of ports that require access to certain logical units, and means for changing the identification information in response to changes in port configurations enabling a determination of identification information for at least one port by referencing the name of the set.

51. (New) The computer program product as in claim 50, where a given one of a group of ports is one of a physical or logical group of ports.